

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method for directly converting packet-based voice data of two non-compatible formats, (e.g., VoIP and VoATM), is described. A VoIP call agent sets a connection between a VoIP edge gateway and an interworking unit (IWU). The IWU allows the VoATM network to appear as a TDM network to the VoIP call agent. The VoIP call agent selects a virtual trunk group and channel identification code through the interworking unit and transmits the selection to a VoATM call agent. The IWU allows the VoIP network to appear as a TDM network to the VoATM call agent such that the VoATM call agent establishes a connection between the virtual trunk group and a VoATM network device. The IWU allows the VoATM network to appear as a TDM network to the VoIP call agent such that the VoIP call agent establishes a connection between the virtual trunk group and a VoIP network device.